

S-E-C-R-E-T

20 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. Chinese Developments: FBIS has continued to devote a major effort to coverage of the developing situation in Communist China. Okinawa Bureau resources were mobilized early in January with the first signs of serious disorder in the CPR, and other bureaus including West Coast and Tokyo have contributed extensively to the flow of information on China to the intelligence community. The Okinawa Bureau reports that its initial efforts were devoted to known trouble spots of Nanking, Shanghai, and nearby municipal centers, with open speaker watches extensively employed. By mid-January, as more and more regional radios broke from the pattern of relaying the Peking central radio, the cruising unit became a focal point for coverage planning. Cruising scan charts, maintained throughout each broadcast day and covering all provincial and selected city radios audible, provided an up-to-the-minute record of radio behavior. The Acting Director, FBIS, commended the Okinawa Bureau for its extraordinary effort.

The Wire Service, in addition to handling an expanded volume of items on China, carried a number of special reports by RPD on "Developments in CPR Radio Propaganda," including 13 during the 19 January-10 February period alone. Several reports rounded up material filed by the Okinawa Bureau and the BBC's Hong Kong unit; others discussed highlights of the propaganda with relevant background; and special tables were prepared by RPD and MOS based on Okinawa Bureau reporting showing the behavior pattern of the regional and local radios. The special Wire reports were also filed to interested Organization and military components in the Far East.

Editorial Division began publishing two Far East daily reports on 6 February to meet demands within the community for information on Communist China to be contained in a single publication and to provide greater flexibility in page allocation. The first publication is called, "Far East I -- Communist China," the second "Far East II -- Asia and Pacific." Some five to fifteen additional pages daily have been devoted to Communist China since the split of the Far East book.

Technical evaluation of North China regional material recently monitored in a reception survey at the Hokkaido Bureau and processed by West Coast Bureau monitors indicated that provincial coverage could be

Group 1

Excluded from automatic down-
grading and declassification

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improved and numerous municipal radios not monitorable at Okinawa could be exploited at Hokkaido. A consumer evaluation of the material sampled at Hokkaido endorsed the value of the additional North China coverage. WCB Staff monitor Willie Wong was detailed to the Hokkaido Bureau in February to provide immediate augmentation of coverage; Hokkaido was also authorized to discontinue TASS Domestic (Cyrillic) Russian coverage to permit reallocation of limited Chinese capability to the Chinese effort.

The Tokyo Bureau was authorized to employ contract personnel to increase reporting on China from the Japanese press. (SECRET)

2. African Bureau Material: An evaluation of material filed by the African Bureau, conducted at the request of higher authority, has reaffirmed the importance of the bureau's mission. Consumer reaction to the material supplied by the bureau was highly favorable. OCI, State, and USIA considered the Kaduna output indispensable, with OCI citing it as "one of the major and most valued sources" of information on the area. Consumers pointed to the timeliness of the bureau's information, noting that it is frequently the first and best source; the uniqueness, with many events covered less thoroughly and belatedly by other sources; and the value of the textual material, such as major pronouncements by African leaders. Another study, conducted to determine whether the bureau's file might be duplicated by Western press agencies and The New York Times; indicated that the intelligence community cannot rely on such alternate sources for regular and routine coverage, and that an interruption or reduction of the African Bureau's reporting would deprive the community of a major source. (SECRET)

3. Cyprus Situation: Tension in Cyprus over the importation by the Cypriot Government of Czech arms and the government's announced intention of distributing them to the police forces continued to simmer during January. The Mediterranean Bureau made detailed plans to cope with the situation if a Greek-Turkish clash ensues over the arms issue. (SECRET)

4. Saigon Bureau Activities: The Saigon Bureau has begun providing all Radio Hanoi and "Liberation Radio" program summaries to the J-2 of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. The summaries are analyzed for indications of vulnerabilities and changes in military themes. In addition, MACV has assigned an intelligence officer to visit the bureau for a half-day twice weekly to analyze current materials. The results of the analysis, according to MACV, are incorporated in a weekly briefing for General Westmoreland and used in support of tactical operations as appropriate.

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A Staff administrative assistant has been assigned to the Saigon Bureau and will at the same time assist the bureau on communications matters. The bureau has also been authorized to employ two additional Vietnamese linguists on a part-time basis. (CONFIDENTIAL)

5. Bangkok Bureau: Establishment of the Bangkok Bureau continued with the arrival of a major shipment of operational supplies including teletype equipment, equipment racks, and dipole antennas. A second major shipment of equipment was expected to arrive in mid-February and a third in March. The DCS terminal communications equipment was recently installed. On 31 January the bureau began recording "Voice of the Thai People" clandestine broadcasts in Thai and Lao for airmailing to Okinawa Bureau. A cruising check of Vietnamese, Lao, Cambodian, and clandestine transmitters indicated good reception at the Bangkok site with noise level relatively low. (CONFIDENTIAL)

6. Special Services: At State Department request, Far East bureaus filed selected material on Vietnam and Communist China to Secretary of State Rusk while he was in Buenos Aires for a series of conferences to last through 22 February.

An Organization component requested a recording of Mao Tse-Tung's voice. A tape was supplied by the West Coast Bureau from a speech to the Party Congress in 1956, the most recent recording of a Mao speech.

An Agency component requested a sampling of material being broadcast by Chinese radios to USSR minorities inasmuch as the Soviet Union has charged that incitement material was being broadcast. Mediterranean Bureau sent Headquarters tapes of Urumchi in Kazakh and forwarded to London for processing Urumchi in Uighur. Okinawa, Tokyo, and Hokkaido bureaus have been supplying Peking, Urumchi, and Huhehot broadcasts in Mongolian.

On 7 February the Key West Bureau monitored from Havana television a radiophoto of a U.S. pilot who, according to Havana, had been downed in North Vietnam less than 48 hours before. The bureau is now forwarding to Headquarters expeditiously all monitored television material on U.S. POW's, downed aircraft, etc., carried by Havana from North Vietnam.

The Okinawa Bureau responded to a special request from the 327th Air Division, Taipei, for information concerning a 13 January air engagement in the Formosa Straits.

In response to an urgent State Department request, FBIS provided Secretary Rusk with the text of Soviet Premier Kosygin's 9 February London press conference prior to Mr. Rusk's own press conference the same day.

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The Wire Service, again in response to a Department request, refiled Ho Chi Minh's 13 February reply to Pope Paul to Secretary Rusk in Buenos Aires.

MOS fulfilled requests for reports on Chicom broadcasting requested by DIA, State, USIA, and the Special Operations Center of JOIC. The Census Bureau's Special International Survey Unit sought information on Cuban broadcast history for NIS purposes. (SECRET)

7. Research and Analysis: The current debate concerning antimissile defense stimulated a number of requests to RPD for Soviet leaders' statements on the question. Consumers were supplied with materials from the War Themes file, as well as three past Radio Propaganda Reports on antimissile development and related topics. A Radio Propaganda Report now in production will provide a compilation of Soviet public statements on antimissile defense capability from 1956 to date.

Beginning with the 2 February issue, the RPD Survey began carrying articles on individual facets of communist propaganda on Vietnam, replacing the biweekly reviews of the total propaganda picture. General reviews of propaganda concerning Vietnam in all major aspects will continue to appear weekly in the Trends. The first two special articles in the Survey dealt with propaganda reflecting tensions in CPR-DRV relations and with Hanoi propaganda on paramilitary units. (CONFIDENTIAL)

8. Uses of FBIS Material: The OCR CHIVE project, which is a computerized effort aimed at improving the flow of information within the intelligence community, is now incorporating into a regularly published index of material on the CPR references to the contents of the Far East Daily Report and the RPD Trends and Surveys. Within a few months the E-T-G Abstracts will be included in the index. Ultimately the project may make it possible to retrieve items from a complete file. (SECRET)

Department of State cables recently cited several FBIS items on the Near East situation, including a reference to the Middle East Roundup of 4 February which reported Amman's rebuttal of UAR charges that Jordan had received U.S. arms free of charge. A cable from the Consulate General in Hong Kong cited FBIS monitoring of a Shanghai broadcast of 14 January as being among the first reports from official CPR sources indicating disruption in rural areas resulting from the cultural revolution. A Department cable to the U.S. Embassy in London noted that Ho Chi Minh's message to the Pope on 13 February, reiterating North Vietnam's four conditions for settlement of the Vietnam crisis, was monitored by FBIS two hours before the announcement

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by the Department of Defense of the resumption of bombing of the DRV. A recent review of services by FBIS to the Department of State revealed that FBIS provides service to 104 embassies and consulates, 38 of which receive material directly by wire. (SECRET)

A syndicated news columnist, commenting on reports of peace feelers from North Vietnam, noted that "U.S. Government monitors" had picked up the "peace hint" expressed by DRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh to communist newsman Wilfred Burchett "before any foreign sources could deliver it." The White House Situation Room confirmed that the FBIS item filed by Okinawa on 28 January had received prompt consideration and was the first information reported on the Trinh statement. (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Key West Bureau forwarded to Headquarters a videotape of the 2 January Cuban revolution anniversary parade. An officer of COMKWESTFOR/Intell visited the bureau to view the material for a briefing of Admiral Christopher. (CONFIDENTIAL)

9. Lateral Services: The U.S. Embassy and USIS in Seoul have been added as lateral addressees for items from Chinese Communist regional radios and selected material from other CPR sources. West Coast, Okinawa, and Tokyo bureaus are handling the service. The Headquarters, Pacific Air Force, at Hickam Air Base, Hawaii, has been added as a lateral addressee for Vietnam, CPR, and Soviet Far East source material, as well as any significant items on the Soviet Air Force. The Tokyo and Hokkaido bureaus have added the Consulate General, Hong Kong, to the list of consumers receiving Ulan Bator material by wire.

The East Coast Bureau conducted a survey of consumers of the World Health Organization's Epidemiological Bulletin, monitored from Geneva Morse and radioteletype transmissions. Twenty-three of 29 consumers responded, with only two requesting discontinuance of the service. The Panama Bureau relayed to Headquarters a request by the Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission for receipt of FBIS Latin American material. (CONFIDENTIAL)

10. Review of 1966: In February FBIS sent to higher authority a review of FBIS accomplishments during 1966 with accompanying photographs. The materials were to be used for a Congressional briefing. (CONFIDENTIAL)

11. New Publication Covers: In line with a recent Organization decision, FBIS is currently reviewing the cover design of its publications to promote a "family resemblance" to other Organization publications. The colors of the various area books are expected to remain the same but typefaces and designs will be altered. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

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12. PPB Five-Year Plan: The FBIS five-year Planning, Programming, and Budgeting Plan has been accepted at the directorate level with no significant changes or reductions in the proposals made. (SECRET)

13. Briefings and Visits: Representatives of FOS, RPD, and the Editorial Division visited Voice of America on 9 February to observe VOA procedures and discuss FBIS services to VOA. VOA representatives stressed the importance of FBIS support, noting for example the uniqueness of FBIS reporting on coups and Soviet announcements. Other tours were arranged for FBIS Headquarters personnel to the White House Situation Room, the Organization's Operations Center, and the OL/PSD printing plant which produces the Daily Report. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

The Organization Director of Planning, Programming, and Budgeting visited the African Bureau. (SECRET)

Ambassador James W. Riddleberger and DCM Robert M. Brandin of the U.S. Embassy in Vienna visited the Austrian Bureau 17 January. David L. Osborn, new Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy in Japan, visited the Tokyo Bureau 31 January. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

FIELD OPERATIONS AND ENGINEERING

14. Broadcast Developments: Peking is continuing its round-the-clock broadcasting in Russian to the USSR, transmitting as many as four separate programs simultaneously. The USSR is continuing its methodical interference with CPR mediumwave and shortwave transmitters carrying these programs. One frequency is usually left clear, however, presumably for Soviet monitoring purposes, permitting FBIS to continue its coverage.

Radio Havana has altered its former once-weekly 30-minute program in Quechua to a daily 15-minute newscast, thus trebling its output to the Indians of Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador. Panama Bureau is covering. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

15. AUTODIN Communications: The Headquarters communications center terminal for the DCS AUTODIN (Automatic Digital Network) system was fully activated 13 February. A priority test message sent to the Key West Bureau by AUTODIN arrived in eight minutes, and a reply from Key West was received in four minutes. During the first day of operation priority messages from Key West arrived with an average transit time of 20 minutes and routine messages averaged 28 minutes, compared with more than two hours previously. West Coast Bureau was scheduled to enter the AUTODIN system 20 February. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

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16. Field Bureau Construction: The construction contract for the Caribbean Bureau was 38.8 percent complete as of 31 January. The work is approximately five weeks behind schedule, however, with the project now expected to be completed 2 July 1967. Construction work has begun on the microwave equipment building.

The Office of the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, has accepted the Hokkaido Bureau construction project. This project consists of the construction of a four-bedroom house and a new operations building at Chitose III. (CONFIDENTIAL)

17. Equipment for Field Bureaus: To cope with the expanded recording load because of developments in Communist China, four additional IBM recorders were installed in the Okinawa Bureau's main radio room. Three were obtained from Headquarters and one bureau spare was put into service.

The Headquarters Engineering Staff has supplied ECB with a new type single-channel radioteletype converter. Because of the unique technical characteristics of the new converter, a Reuters South American circuit, previously unmonitorable at ECB, can now be copied. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

ADMINISTRATION

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Effective 13 February 1967, Headquarters, East Coast, and Caribbean Bureau external routing indicators were changed due to entrance into the AUTODIN system. Please make the following changes for Caribbean and East Coast Bureaus

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Caribbean Bureau: From RUEPSEK to RUEOMBB

East Coast Bureau: From RUEPHN to RUEOMBD

FBIS internal indicators remain the same, e.g., WA, PR & HN.

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African Bureau Shipping Address: The shipping address for household goods and personal vehicles should be changed to read:

Full Name of Employee
FBIS Kaduna
c/o Intercotra, Ltd.
P. O. Box 42, APAPA
Lagos, Nigeria

(UNCLASSIFIED)

20. Shipment of POV as Accompanied Baggage. A recent cost study on the shipment of POV's between New York and European ports has shown that it is more economical, when an employee travels by ship, to have his vehicle accompany him. Henceforth, an employee authorized sea travel between New York and European ports will be required to transport his POV on the same ship as accompanied baggage. (UNCLASSIFIED)

21. Imprest Fund Expenditures for Travel or Transportation. Whenever payments are made from the Imprest Fund for travel or transportation authorized by a travel order, the travel order number should be cited in the description column of the voucher. (UNCLASSIFIED)

22. Training. [redacted] Engineering Staff, attended the Second Forum on Electromagnetics and Antennas held at the University of Illinois from 30 January through 3 February 1967. [redacted] Chief, Liaison and Requirements Staff, began a five-month course at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia, on 6 February. (ADMIN--INTERNAL USE ONLY)

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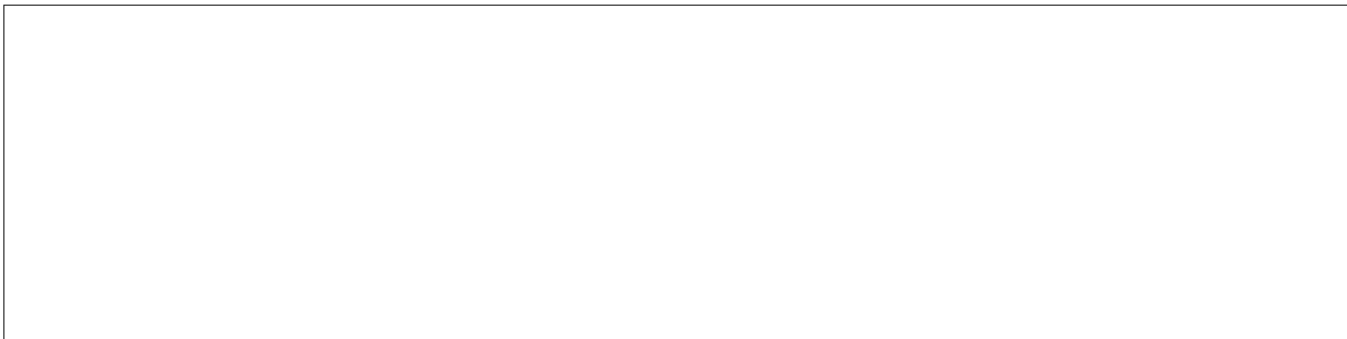
23. Regulatory Issuances. The following regulatory issuances were disseminated: (SECRET)

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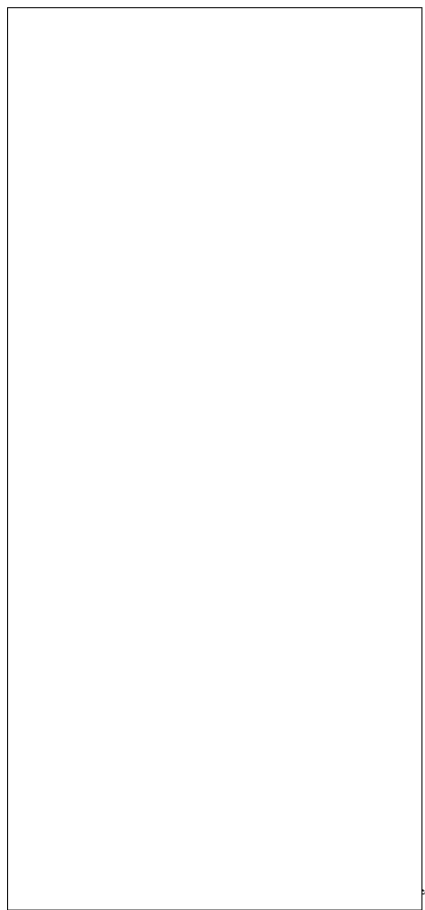
EDITORIAL

1. Editors and monitors are advised to review Page I-14 of the Editorial Handbook, noting particularly the distinction between indicating an element or name imperfectly received but which can be guessed on the basis of knowledge or context, and indicating an unfamiliar name which is rendered phonetically.

2. Bureaus should periodically review their requirements for Headquarters publications, in particular the Daily Report. Whereas it is recognized that frequently these publications are utilized for lateral consumers, the number of copies destined for internal bureau use should be kept at a minimum.

PERSONNEL

3. Reassignments



<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Watch Officer East Coast Bureau	Watch Officer Caribbean Bureau
Senior Editor Saigon Bureau	Projects Editor Editorial Division
Editor Mediterranean Bureau	Editor, ME/AF/WE/LA Br. Editorial Division
Watch Officer Key West Bureau	Watch Officer Caribbean Bureau
Project Engineer Engineering Staff	Asst. Chief Engineer Caribbean Bureau
Operations Officer Hokkaido Bureau	Editor Mediterranean Bureau
Watch Officer East Coast Bureau	Watch Officer Key West Bureau
Acting Chief West Coast Bureau	Chief West Coast Bureau
Chief, Comm. Section WSB, Editorial Div.	Admin. Assistant Saigon Bureau

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4. Resignation



From
Typist, Editorial Division

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5. TDY in Headquarters



En route from Hokkaido to Mediterranean Bureau
Consultation and return to African Bureau

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Acting Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service